

INFORMATION PAPER

DAMO-SSF
04 APR 00

SUBJECT: FAO In-country Training Program - Belgium

1. PURPOSE: To provide a summary of the FAO in-country training program and facilities available in Belgium that will assist in the selection and arrival time of replacement personnel. Projected in-country trainees should use the information provided to contact incumbent FAO trainees and/or FAO supervisor as early as possible for more detailed information.

2. FACTS:

a. Summary of Program:

(1) Tour Length- Approximately 12-14 months.

(2) Normal Arrival/Departure Dates- Jun/Jul through Aug of the following year (early arrival is acceptable).

(3) Program Description- As of June 1997, there are two FAOs assigned to Belgium. One FAO attends the Second Cycle of the Institut Royale Supérieur de Defense (IRSD)/Koninklijk Hoger Instituut voor Defensie (KHID) for 10 or 11 months. The IRSD/KHID is a pre-major, CAS3-plus equivalent course. Within the school, there is French and a Dutch (Flemish) language section. If and when time permits, the FAO can conduct in-country/regional orientation. The second FAO executes a training program that includes, as a minimum, an internship at NATO, a temporary assignment to a Belgian brigade headquarters, and in-country/regional orientation. Other activities can be added which support the FAO's Program of Instruction (POI).

(4) Prerequisites- CPT/MAJ; DLPT scores should be at least 2+/2+ in either French or Dutch (Flemish). An elementary understanding of the second language, i.e. French or Dutch (Flemish) is very helpful and highly desirable. Branch immaterial (CA preferred).

b. Property:

(1) Government - No FAO vehicle or computer. The DAO, however, provides a workspace and an unclassified computer for the FAOs. FAOs maintain a small library consisting of books and maps.

(2) Personal - Bring POV. Most POV makes can be supported, European most easily. US versions of Japanese cars not always easily supported. Ship POV to Rotterdam.

c. Household Goods: Shipment of household goods is authorized. Incoming FAOs should coordinate with resident FAOs for recommended items to bring as accompanied and unaccompanied baggage. A personal computer with modem is highly recommended.

d. Housing: Local Economy. FAOs receive OHA. Expensive but not difficult to find. FAOs usually live in the Flemish suburbs located to the east and southeast of Brussels. Major appliances (220v/50Hz) are available from U.S. Army support element at Chievres Air Base.

e. Support Facilities:

(1) Medical - Available for FAO and Dependents at NATO clinic on Brussels American School (BAS) Grounds. Additional services are available at the SHAPE medical clinic. CHAMPUS at local hospitals.

(2) Dependent Schooling - Brussels American School is part of the DODDS system. Grades K-12. K and primary are adequate to good. Grades 6-8 lack extracurricular opportunities. High school offers basic academic curriculum but has a good acceptance rate with most colleges and universities. Good to excellent extracurricular opportunities for 9-12 with strong parental support; virtually no drug problem. Two good U.S. style private schools exist with tuition and fees \$6-10,000, non-reimbursable.

(3) PX/Commissary - Full scale complex at Chievres Air Base, 50 minutes south and at Shinnen in the Netherlands, 60 minutes to the EAST.

(4) Other- NATO Support Activity (SUPACT) supports US military in Brussels area (education center, library, finance, shopette, cafeteria, video rental store, MOS library, housing referral, and transportation office). Also at NATO SUPACT - Barber shop, ACS, Thrift Shop, Autocrafts, and Fitness Facility.

f. Language Instruction Availability: Tutoring available for FAO and spouse. Embassy is first POC.

g. Rating Chain:

Rater – AIRA
Senior Rater – DATT/ARMA

h. Incumbent FAO/Departure Date:

MAJ Jeff Lawrence	FA, 87	9907-0007
MAJ Douglas McVey	SF, 89	9907-0007
CPT Laura Landes	FI, 89	0007-0107
CPT Joseph Halisky	FA, 89	0007-0107

i. Address:

(1) Mail - DAO/Embassy, PSC 82 BOX 002,
APO AE 09710

(2) Message - USDAO BRUSSELS BE

(3) Email - daobrussels@usinfo.be

j. Phone #: 011-322-508-2501/2503
Fax #: 011-322-508-2153.

3. Additional Information: Bring materials from OAC/CAS3/CGSC.

HQDA ODCSOPS (DAMO-SSF)
ATTN: LTC PEVOSKI
Europe/Eurasia
400 ARMY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20310-0400

LTC Richard J. Pevoski
FAO Program Manager –

COMM (703) 697-4013 / DSN 227-
FAX: (703) 695-1658 / DSN 225-
Email: pevossrj@hqda.army.mil